

# SAPPHIRE LAKES NEWSLETTER

January 2026

## Activities Team

Nancy Foster, Chairperson  
Nancy Simonetti, Treasurer  
Ross McQuade, Secretary  
Peter Bifano  
Cathie Churchill

Kathy McQuade  
Ed Normand  
Brian North  
Debbie Pinto  
Bob Simpson

Bill Stover  
Kathy Stover  
Suzanne Whittingstall

## ACTIVITIES TEAM CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2026

<b><u>January Picnic:</u></b>	Saturday, January 17, 2026 at 1:00 PM (Rain date: January 18 <sup>th</sup> )
<b><u>Bingo</u></b>	Sunday, February 1, 2026 at 2:00 – 4:00 PM at the Pool 3 Cabana
<b><u>Ladies Luncheon</u></b>	Tuesday, February 17, 2026 at 12:00 PM Vergina's on Fifth Avenue
<b><u>Chili Fiesta:</u></b>	Saturday, February 21, 2026 at 5:30 PM at the Pool 3 Cabana
<b><u>Trivial Pursuit</u></b>	Sunday, March 1, 2026 at 4:00 – 6:00 PM at the Pool 3 Cabana
<b><u>Bake Sale:</u></b>	Saturday, March 7, 2026 8:00 – 11:00 AM at the Pool 3 Cabana
<b><u>Bingo</u></b>	Sunday, March 29, 2026 at 2:00 – 4:00 PM at the Pool 3 Cabana
<b><u>Bocce Pizza Party:</u></b>	Thursday, March 12, 2026 following the Super Bocce Games
<b><u>Craft / Yard Sale</u></b>	Saturday, April 11, 2026 at the Recreation Area

## COMCAST EQUIPMENT UPGRADE

Our Comcast equipment upgrade began in mid-December and will be ongoing for a few months. There will be **NO INTERRUPTION OF SERVICES** for anyone who has not yet received the upgrade equipment. Each unit will have a new black box installed to replace the current ONU (silver rectangular box with a green light mounted on the wall), and all of your boxes and remotes will be replaced at no cost. The upgrade will result in a much faster internet speed and better reception on your TVs. **To schedule your appointment for a time convenient to you, call 833-501-1928 and an actual live person will answer the phone and help you schedule an appointment for the upgrade which will take from 1 – 3 hours depending on your circumstances.** Contact Bob Foster at [rwfoster22@gmail.com](mailto:rwfoster22@gmail.com) if you have any questions or concerns.

## COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

**January Picnic** - Saturday, January 17<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 pm in the Picnic Area (Rain date: Sunday, January 18<sup>th</sup>)  
Lunch includes hamburgers, hot dogs, Italian sausages, potato salad and cole slaw. If you prefer a veggie burger, please request one or two when you make your reservation. The cost is \$15 and reservations can be made by contacting **Debbie Pinto at 508-930-7180 on either January 10<sup>th</sup> or 11<sup>th</sup>. Please make payments to Debbie in cash at her villa at 348 Gabriel Cir #1. Desserts are also appreciated.**

## Aquatics

Aquatics are held Monday to Saturday at both Pool #1 and Pool #2. Pool #1 begins at 9:00 am and Pool #2 at 9:15 am. Classes are 45 minutes, and everyone is welcome.

## Bocce League

Bocce dates for 2026:

<b>1/12/26</b>	<b>Captain's Meeting</b>	<b>11:00am at Pool 3</b>
1/13/26	New Players/Subs Mandatory Workshop	11:00am at BocceCourt 1
<b>1/14/26</b>	<b>Referee Scheduling Meeting</b>	<b>11:00am at Pool 3</b>
1/14/26	New Referee Workshop	1:00pm at Bocce Court 2
1/19/26	Bocce League Play begins	

3/09/26	Playoffs
03/10/26	Semi-Finals
03/12/26	Super Bocce Championship (followed by gathering & food at the Picnic Area)
03/16/26	Gender Games (with hot dog barbecue)

\*\*\* Please know that we are always happy to welcome any new players! (no experience is needed to get started) or folks willing to become referees. If you want to join, please contact our Bocce Chairman, Brian Claire; call or text at 603-568-6796 email: [b1clair4@gmail.com](mailto:b1clair4@gmail.com)

### **Book Club**

If you like to read, come and join our Sapphire Lakes Book Club. We meet every second Monday of the month starting in January at pool 3 at 1 PM. We pick a book, and someone leads the discussion. So come with your suggestions and knowledge. *The following are the books for 2026.*

January 12: "The Nightingale" by Kristen Hannah – Leader Eileen Lavoie

February 9: "The Island of Sea Women" by Lisa See – Leader Sharon Abella

March 9: "The Secret Life of Sunflowers" by Marta Molnar-Leader Liz Dalton

Any questions, please contact Sue Chapin at 239-398-6181. Look forward to seeing everyone!

### **Bridge Group**

The Sapphire Lakes Bridge Group plays no-stress, fun, party bridge and meets every Thursday **starting January 8, 2026 from 12:30 – 3:30 PM at the Pool 3 Cabana**. Anyone with some experience playing bridge is welcome to attend. You do not need to bring a partner. Contact: Paula Culligan phone: 920-391-8068 email: [Culliganmd@gmail.com](mailto:Culliganmd@gmail.com)

### **Crocheting**

For those who crochet or knit, or want to learn, please come to **Pool 4 on Tuesdays at 1:00 pm**. We have a lively group of crafty yarners.

## **GOLF**

### **Ladies Golf – Sapphire Swingers**

We welcome all lady golfers to our Friday morning Golf League whether you are a new golfer or a seasoned one!! We will start at **Hibiscus Golf Club on Friday, January 2nd, golfing the back 9 holes with tee times starting at 7:30 AM**. The cost is \$62.54 including cart and tax. We are not an official league so you don't have to come out every week, just when you can or want to. As always, we are a fun group of girls/some guys and go out to brunch after (optional). Please call me if you would like to join us. Hibiscus Golf Club, 5375 Hibiscus Drive, Naples (239) 774-0088 Thanks, Sue Mears (248) 231-5792

### **Men's Golf**

Sapphire Lakes Golf Association: Our long-running Friday golf group welcomes new members. **In the 2026 winter season we will play at Quail Run Golf in Naples. We have confirmed tee times starting at noon on Fridays, January through March.** There is no commitment to play a certain number of rounds. We welcome both men and women golfers. For more information please contact: Sam Shakespeare: [s.shakespeare@optimum.net](mailto:s.shakespeare@optimum.net) or Paul Roche: [proche195@hotmail.com](mailto:proche195@hotmail.com) Also, we have a golf group that plays on Wednesdays at Westminster Golf in Lehigh Acres. For information on this please contact Sam

### **Hand, Foot and Elbow**

We are excited to begin a new season of Hand, Foot and Elbow! This fun card game will be played at **Pool 3 Tuesday nights at 5:30. Our season will begin on Tuesday, January 13, 2026** and continue through Tuesday, March 31, 2026. As always, we love to meet new players so come and join the fun! If you have any questions, please call Debbie Pinto @ 508-930-7180 or Suzanne Whittingstall @ 514-229-6516.

### **Horseshoes**

If anyone is interested in playing any organized horseshoes this season please contact George Churchill First choice: [geochurchi@gmail.com](mailto:geochurchi@gmail.com) Second choice: 978-618-9373

### **Ladies Luncheon**

Date: Tuesday, February 17, 2026

Place: Vergina's Restaurant

700 Fifth Avenue South

239-659-7008

**Time: 12:00 PM** Cost: \$30.00 All Inclusive - Paid In Advance Reserve By: February 9, 2026

Menu: Avenue Salad (Spinach, walnuts, tangerines, goat cheese and honey mustard)

ENTREES: (Choice to be pre-ordered)

Chicken Parmesan w/pasta and Pomodoro Sauce

Salmon w/rice and grilled asparagus

Lasagna

Four Cheese Fiochi with Pear

DESSERT: Tiramisu Cake

BEVERAGES: Coffee, Iced Tea and Soda are included. A glass of house red or white wine \$12.00 tax and tip included. Your entree must be selected when you make your reservation. Thank you.

To reserve, please call Sue Mears 248-231-5792 or Connie Fullerton 239-353-3946. For your convenience you can make your check payable to Connie Fullerton (U.S. Funds) See you there!

**Logo Sales:** Clothing items with the Sapphire Lakes logo embroidered on them can now be ordered online through our website [www.sapphirelakesnaples.net](http://www.sapphirelakesnaples.net) and clicking on "Activities". There will not be an on-site sales event this season. Any questions can be directed to Nan Foster email: NanFoster48@gmail.com

### **Mah Jongg (American)**

Mah Jongg (American) Come and enjoy our open play **starting January 7, Wednesdays 1-3, Pool 3. Lessons for newcomers.** Contacts: Marie Huester (570-357-0476); Cathie Churchill (978-618-4874).

### **Mah Jongg (Cantonese)**

**Mondays, Pool 3 from 1:00-3:00, starting January 12th, 2026.** Please note that on the 2nd Monday of the month play will be from 2:30-4:30 after book club. Therefore, our first day **January 12th will start at 2:30.** Last day will be March 23rd. It is similar to Gin Rummy but played with Chinese tiles. You can show up any time during hours of play; no weekly commitment. Newcomers always welcomed! If you own a Mahjongg set, please bring it. If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact me.

**Contact:** Suzanne Whittingstall - text me at 514-229-6516 or email [suewhitt19@gmail.com](mailto:suewhitt19@gmail.com)

### **Pickleball**

The Sapphire Lakes Pickleball Committee is looking forward to another great pickleball season at Sapphire Lakes. We will have our Opening Day at Pool 3 on Sunday, January 18, 2026 at 1:00 PM. At that time, we will collect the annual membership fee of ten dollars. See the calendar for the upcoming year.

### **Pinochle**

Pinochle is played at 1:00 pm at Pool # 1 each day depending on availability of participants.

### **Poetry Club**

The Poetry Club plans to start up in February. Details will be included in the February newsletter.

### **Poor Man's Poker**

Our poker nights will start on **Thursday January 15, 2026 from 6:30 pm to 10:00 pm at Pool #3.**

For more information contact: Don Schroer 312-404-8620.

### **Tennis**

Any male or female players interested in playing tennis on our two dedicated tennis courts are asked to contact Bill Sparhawk at [8hearths1796@gmail.com](mailto:8hearths1796@gmail.com)

### **Trivial Pursuit**

A Trivia Team Competition will be held on **Sunday, March 1, 2026 at Pool 3 from 4:00 – 6:00 PM**. There will be 8 six person teams battling it out. Interested groups of six should have their captain contact Shelley Simpson by email: [ShelleyTileGirl@gmail.com](mailto:ShelleyTileGirl@gmail.com).

### **Yoga**

Chair Yoga will be every Tuesday and Thursday at Pool 3 at 9 AM for an hour. Cost is \$5.00, Please bring a strap and weights that you are comfortable with. You can join us in improving your strength, balance and flexibility. Yoga will also improve your mental health and you will be conscious of mindfulness in helping to reduce stress and connecting with others improving your quality of Life. For more information, please contact Sue Chapin at 239-398-6181. Hope to see you all in January and Merry Christmas and a Happy New year to you all.

## **BLUE ZONE**

**Happy New Year & welcome all to 2026 Blue Zone activities.**

**Jan 9 - RUMMIKUB-** Pat Williamson- [pattywilly@live.com](mailto:pattywilly@live.com) Join us every Friday at pool 3 from 1-3pm during January.

**Jan 12 - BIKE OUTINGS-** Becky Earney- [raearney@gmail.com](mailto:raearney@gmail.com) - 8am Mondays . Meet at the front gate for a local hour bike ride exploring east Naples in January.

**Jan 14 - ADVENTURE WALKERS-** Stephanie Roche - [rochesteph2008@gmail.com](mailto:rochesteph2008@gmail.com) 8am . Meet at the front gate for a local walk close to Sapphire Lakes. January 21 meet at Freedom Park in Naples at 8am for an off site walk. Jan 28 meet at the front gate 8am for a local walk .

**Jan 17 - Sapphire Lakes Picnic** 1pm - hosted by the Activities Committee - "picnic area". A Blue Zone table will be set up. Donations of your favorite healthy dish or fruit selection will be appreciated for this kick off event.

**Jan 24 - BLUE SKY Restaurant-** Naples 2pm - will host our group. Contact Linda Martin for your reservation - [lrsjer49@gmail.com](mailto:lrsjer49@gmail.com) Separate checks, good food & new friends make this a special outing.

**Jan 28 - WINE at 4 - 4pm** - "picnic area" at Sapphire Lakes. Bring your favorite small, healthy dish to share & your beverage of choice. Italian wine will be sampled. Raffle tickets \$1.00 ea or (6 for \$5.00), door prizes, music & a local speaker from Habitat for Humanity will set us up for a fun evening. [schapin43@aol.com](mailto:schapin43@aol.com)

**UPCOMING EVENTS - February 2 - 7am - RAISIN CANE bus trip currently filled.** A reserve list is available for any cancellations- [raearney@gmail.com](mailto:raearney@gmail.com)

**February 11- Naples Botanical Gardens** - 7:45 am front entrance to the garden - free entry when wearing your Blue Zone T-shirt.

**FYI - ART AFTER HOURS - Baker Museum** 5833 Pelican Bay Blvd - Naples. Jan 28, Feb 25, March 25, etc from 6 -9 . FREE admission is granted the last Wednesday of every month year around.

## SAPPHIRE LAKES MASTER ASSOCIATION

### Condominium Association Presidents/Master Board

Amber	Sharon Bonnet
Amethyst	Daria Murphy
Diamond	Kit Ingeme
Emerald	Ken Grissoni
Garnet	Irwin LeShaw
Hematite	Paul French
Jade	Bob Foster
Jasper	John Azzinaro
Malachite	Mike Mears
Opal	Linda Raftery
Quartz	Charlie Lorenzo
Spinel	Connie Fullerton
Topaz	Suzanne Chapin
Tourmaline	Charlie Ferrara
Turquoise	Alex DeSanctis

### Master Board Executive Committee

President:	Bob Foster
Vice-President:	Ken Grissoni
Treasurer:	Mike Mears
Secretary:	Sue Chapin
Officer at Large:	Connie Fullerton

### Management Company

Resort Management  
2685 Horseshoe Dr. S., #215  
Phone: (239) 649-5526

### Sapphire Lakes Property Manager

Suzanne Foster  
Gate House Phone: (239)353-2465  
Email: SFoster@resortgroupinc.com

### Letter from Connie Fullerton re: the passing of her brother Tom Newcomb and her sister-in-law

#### Pat Newcomb

On behalf of the Newcomb family, I would like to thank everyone for your kindness in the great loss of both Pat and Tom Newcomb. Pat passed in June, 2024 and Tom passed in August, 2025.

Pat and Tom were one of the first owners in Sapphire Lakes and they were integral in its success. They loved our community and the wonderful friends that they met.

If you took a moment and thought of us, said a prayer or sent a card we would like for you to know that we appreciated it. Hug your loved ones and stay well.

### President's Corner

I hope that everyone had a terrific holiday season, and I am happy to welcome you to the 2026 season in our beautiful, active community. We have many new unit owners and seasonal renters this season who will have their first opportunity to enjoy the full slate of activities that we offer at Sapphire Lakes. I encourage you to use our community website: [www.sapphirelakesnaples.net](http://www.sapphirelakesnaples.net) to view our complete list of activities and other information about our community that will help you enjoy your time here. If you want to be included in the periodic email blast that myself and/or the Property Manager Suzanne Foster send out, please email me your email address to [rwfoster22@gmail.com](mailto:rwfoster22@gmail.com). If you're a seasonal renter, I can include you just for the three months that you're here.

One project that will be starting in early January will be an upgrade to your Xfinity equipment in your unit which will result in much faster upload and download speeds. **(See the article on page 1.)** In December we had some units undergo the upgrade to evaluate the process and plan for the whole community to experience the upgrade which will probably take 2-3 months to complete. Owners will be given information to call a special Xfinity phone number to schedule an appointment which will take 1 to 3 hours to complete. Xfinity will be mailing out some information to all owners and Bob and Suzanne will be sending out email blasts with information as needed.

The Activities Team has planned several special events, such as the January and April Picnics as well as the Chili Fiesta (February) that you can read about in other sections of this newsletter. The Bocce Committee is looking for a few more players to substitute in the Bocce League play which starts in mid-January. See the Bocce write up in this newsletter for more details.

One change that you will notice this year is that our landscape company, **Daley Lawn Care** has been bought out by a larger company, **Landscape Workshop**. However, they still are using the same landscape crew that they have been using with Daley since last January. And they have been doing an excellent job.

The Master Board will have a regular monthly Board meeting on Wednesday, January 21<sup>st</sup> at 10:00 am at Pool 3.

## **Sapphire Lakes Financial Update and Year-End Summary**

- **Season's Greetings and Overview**

First, I want to wish everyone a Happy New Year and hope everyone had a Merry Christmas. I am pleased to report that, financially, Sapphire Lakes is in good shape as we close out the year.

- **2025 Financial Performance**

It appears that we should end the year approximately \$13,000 under budget. Most of these savings are a result of additional income collected from Certificates of Deposit (CDs) and Money Market (MM) accounts, which together contributed \$10,000. In addition, we anticipate saving about \$3,000 in operating expenses.

- **Areas Over Budget**

Despite overall positive results, there were several areas where expenses exceeded the budget:

- Trash Removal: \$4,000 over budget
- Bushes Replacement: \$4,000 over budget
- Lake Maintenance: \$10,000 over budget
- Golf Cart Repairs: \$3,000 over budget
- Gate Repair: \$4,000 over budget

- **Areas Under Budget**

Fortunately, these overruns were offset by significant savings in other areas:

- Insurance Costs: \$15,700 under budget
- Irrigation Expense: \$8,000 under budget
- Building Maintenance: \$3,000 under budget

- **Contingency Fund Status**

All savings from this year's budget will be allocated to the contingency account, which currently stands just under \$100,000. With these additional savings, we will begin the new year with a balance of \$113,000 in the contingency fund. I would like to remind everyone that this money is held in a special Money Market account to be used exclusively for emergencies, such as hurricane recovery or unexpected expenses.

- **2026 Budget Outlook**

Looking ahead, the master operational budget for 2026 will increase by 3.90%. The contribution to reserve funds will rise from \$112,000 to \$130,000. This increase reflects higher projected costs of reserve items and the upcoming need to begin repaving the parking lots in 2027.

In terms of interest earnings, rates on CDs and Money Market accounts are expected to decline in 2026 due to the Federal Reserve reducing rates. We anticipate earning around 3.5% on CDs and 3% on Money Market reserves.

- **Reserve Account Activity**

In 2025, approximately \$73,500 was spent from the reserve account on the following projects:

1. Sealing and repairs to streets: \$65,850
2. Irrigation pumps: \$7,899

There are no projects planned from the reserves for 2026.

- **Closing Remarks**

Please note that all the numbers provided here are year-end estimates. We will share final figures in the next newsletter and at the annual meeting in March. I want to assure everyone that your board is working diligently to control expenses. Suzanne and Bob have been collaborating closely with me to manage costs, especially given the challenges our aging community faces and the impact of inflation.

Thank you all for your continued support.

Mike Mears

## **SAPPHIRE LAKES INFORMATION**

### **Front Gate Phone Number**

Some residents have had problems letting visitors in through the front entrance and in some cases they have "blocked" the phone number probably thinking that it was a telemarketer calling. To avoid this from happening, we suggest that you add the "Front Gate" phone number into your contacts on your phone: **239-304-1893**

### **Communications**

Report any change in **telephone numbers** for updating of the entry gate system as well as the telephone directory, by e-mail, [SFoster@resortgroupinc.com](mailto:SFoster@resortgroupinc.com). Also, please send Suzanne your email address if you are not receiving the periodic email blasts from her and/or President Bob Foster that include community updates.

### **St. Matthew's House**

We will continue to collect non-perishable items to donate to St. Matthew's House. This wonderful organization prepares meals daily for their residents and many others. They also assist needy families with weekly groceries. Please bring items to donate to our Sapphire Lakes gatherings, such as the picnics. Also, I will deliver donations when you may be cleaning out your cupboards. Your past generosity has been much appreciated. Please contact Sue Mears 248-231-5792 or Nan Foster 508-965-1396.

### **Internet at the 4 Pools**

"sapphire" is the password at all of the pools for internet.

### **Sapphire Lakes Website**

Information about Sapphire Lakes as well as photos from our activities can be found on our website: [sapphirelakesnaples.net](http://sapphirelakesnaples.net).

### **Collier County Lift Assistance**

If someone falls and needs assistance getting up, but not to go to the hospital, one can call **239-252-9300** for assistance.

### **Pool Telephones**

We no longer have landline telephones at our four pools and instead we have replaced them with **911 Emergency Cell Phones**.

### **Rental of Cabanas**

Any resident wishing to use any of the cabanas for personal gatherings must apply fourteen (14) days in advance. Applications can be obtained from Suzanne Foster, Property Manager. This applies only to cabanas. Pools and pool decks are always open to all residents and may not be reserved or rented. A deposit of \$50 is required which will be refunded if the area is cleaned up properly. **Social distancing and hygiene plans will be reviewed with applicant before approval.** Further details are available in the application.

### **Attention Walkers, Bikers and Drivers**

**Walkers:** please make sure that you walk AGAINST the traffic when walking the streets at Sapphire Lakes and wear light colors and/or reflective clothing when walking in non-daylight hours. **Bikers:** please make sure to ride WITH the traffic and to have reflectors and/or lights on your bicycle. Helmets are recommended. We want everyone to be safe!!

**And vehicles,** please obey the Stop signs **including those at the driveways.** **Please be aware of those on the street walking or biking in these areas.** We have been fortunate that no one has caused an accident yet but the potential is there. Please do this for the safety of all!

### **Entrance Gates**

Unit owners may purchase additional gate access cards and vehicle bar codes at a **cost of \$25.00** by check or money order only and are available from our Property Manager, Suzanne Foster. Credit cards are now accepted but there is a \$1.06 service charge. NO CASH.

### **Pool Umbrellas**

All pools have umbrellas on the decks. If you are the last to leave the pool area, please be responsible and lower any umbrellas that are open. Thank you.



### **Defibrillators**

An Automated Electronic Defibrillator (AED) is installed at the cabana at the Recreation area restroom and all four pools.

Before using the AED machine, assure that **911** has been called. Turn on the AED and follow the audio prompts.

### **Central Car Washing Area**

There is an area located near the recreation area washroom facility for residents to wash cars. It is **mandatory** for boats to be washed only in this area. Boat rinsing should be limited to 15 minutes after it has been in saltwater.

### **Comcast Issues**

Any Comcast related issues should be addressed with Comcast by calling 1-800-XFINITY stating you are part of the Bulk Services Contract at Sapphire Lakes. It is also important to note that every Sapphire Lakes unit has a Comcast account. If you sell your unit, please be sure your name is removed from the account to ensure that you are not billed in the future. It would also be prudent to turn in your equipment to Comcast allowing the new owner to set up their own account with Comcast.

### **Your Pets**

Please report any violations of the pet rules that you witness or observe to our Property Manager, Suzanne Foster (353-2465) so that proper action can be taken against offenders.

**Reminder!!!** And also –Please **do not feed the wild animals including feral cats, squirrels and ducks!** They are creatures of the wild and should fend for themselves. After Association meetings at the Pools or gatherings at the Picnic area, any garbage should be removed and placed in a dumpster nearby.

### **Garden Waste**

Plant debris should be piled or bagged and placed along the street, not at the dumpsters or parking lots, for pick up by the landscaping company on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

### **Recycling and Trash**

**Residents are urged to please help the environment by recycling whenever possible. Newspaper, flyers, flattened small cardboard boxes, catalogs, magazines, telephone books, paper grocery bags, clear, green and brown bottles and jars, aluminum and steel/tin food and beverage cans, all plastics #1 through #7 can all be placed in the recycle bins.**

**Please, please, do not put plastic bags or garbage into the re-cycling bins!!!!**

Before placing large cardboard boxes in the garbage bins, please **break them down** to ensure that the dumpsters are not filled before the garbage truck arrives. Small boxes should be collapsed and placed in the recycling containers.

For those units that have individual trash and recycling tote bins, please call **Collier County at 239-252-2380** for disposal of larger items such as TV's, mattresses, furniture, etc. For those using large dumpsters please contact **Roberto at 239-316-6452**. There is a charge for special pickup.

### **PLEASE DO NOT LEAVE ARTICLES BESIDE THE DUMPSTERS!!**

For hazardous wastes such as paint, oil or solvents, they may be taken to the Waste Disposal site at 2640 Corporate Flight Drive with no fee. They are open Tuesday to Saturday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

### **Collier Area Para Transit**

After approval, this service is provided to residents of Collier County needing assistance mainly traveling to medical appointments or nutrition sites. Information regarding this service can be obtained by calling Para Transit System at 239-252-7272.

### **Suspicious Activity**

Please contact the Sheriffs' Office at **239-774-4434** to report any suspicious activities or persons.



### **"New to You" - Free Items**

Anything you wish to **"give away"** may be listed in the newsletter. This does **not** include items you wish to sell. Just give the information to one of the Activities Team or email it to [nanfoster48@gmail.com](mailto:nanfoster48@gmail.com) with "for the newsletter" in the subject matter. Unknown email addresses will not be opened without the subject line completed. **"One person's junk is another's treasure!"**

### **Condolence List Since the April 2025 Newsletter**

**Joni Sue Sparks (235 West Naomi Dr. #1) (Hematite)** passed away on April 10, 2025 at the age of 81. Remembrances can be sent to her daughter, Stacey Sparks at the address above.

**DJ Plys, the son of Don and Aileen Plys (249 Gabriel Cir #9) (Turquoise)** passed away peacefully on his 44th birthday on May 25, 2025.

**Sid Buffington (130 Asaf Dr. #1) (Hematite)** passed away on July 27, 2025. Condolences can be sent to his wife Kathy at the Sapphire Lakes address.

**Charlie Spignesi (110 Asaf Dr. #3) (Hematite)** passed away on August 20, 2025 after a brief illness. Condolences can be sent to his sister, Ann Cece at 7834 Stratford Dr., Naples, FL 34104.

**Tom Newcomb, Cincinnati, OH (formerly long-time resident of Jade and Malachite)** passed away on August 24, 2025 at the age of 88 after a short illness. He was pre-deceased by his wife Pat Newcomb in June 2024. Tom was a very active Sapphire Lakes resident with a big personality. He was one of those people who would do anything for you, and he was involved from the beginning in many community activities. He ran the Men's Golf League for years, helped organize Men's Poker group, and was the captain of his Bocce Team (Reds) for over 20 years. Condolences can be sent to his sister Connie Fullerton (Spinel) at 313 Gabriel Cir #5.

**Walter Queen, 665 Luisa Lane #1 (Jasper)** passed away on September 6, 2025 at the age of 79 after a period of declining health. He is survived by his wife Anna Marie Queen of the same address.

**Jim Lynch, Sr., former Jade resident,** passed away in mid September 2025 at the age of 95. Jim lived at 380 Gabriel Cir from several years until moving back to New Hampshire a few years ago to be closer to his family. Jim was a loveable Irishman who always had a twinkle in his eye and had a great sense of humor. His son and daughter-in-law Jim Jr. and Alice Lynch now live in his former unit during season. Cards of condolence can be mailed to Jim Lynch, Jr. 380 Gabriel Cir #3.

**Margaret Dawson (Amber)** passed away in Canada in September 2025. Condolences can be sent to her husband Rick Dawson, 164 Belina Drive #5 Naples, FL 34104.

**Margaret Reif (Spinel - 379 Gabriel),** one of our longtime residents who moved back north about 8 years ago, passed away on October 14<sup>th</sup> at the age of 93. Condolences can be sent to her daughter: Carolyn Reif at 90 Central St., Ipswich, MA 01938

**Bob Geary (Turquoise), 153 Gabriel Cir #8,** longtime seasonal resident and husband of Fay Geary, passed away on September 30th after a period of declining health. Condolences can be sent to Fay at her Sapphire Lakes address or to her northern address: 104 Wayland Road Hyannis, MA 02601

**Diane Wietecha (Garnet) 186 Gabriel Cir #2** passed away on October 28, 2025 at her home in Michigan. She was predeceased by her husband Hank on June 12, 2024. They were seasonal owners in Garnet for 30 years. Condolences can be sent to her daughter Marilyn to: 1380 Kent Rd. Ortonville, MI 48462.

**Charles Cole of 120 Asaf Drive #3 (Hematite)**, passed away on Sunday November 16, 2025. Remembrances can be sent to his wife Magda Cole at the same address.

**Sandi Zurlino, 236 West Naomi Dr. # 1, (Hematite)** passed away on Wednesday, November 19th at a hospital in Fort Myers from complications suffered after hip replacement surgery. Sandi was a lovely, vivacious lady who was an active longtime member of the Sapphire Lakes community. She was pre-deceased by her husband Dominic in May 2023. Remembrances can be sent to her son Carlo Zurlino who will continue to reside at their Sapphire Lakes address.

**Toni Lundborg (Opal)** died on Dec. 16th. She, and her husband Skip are original owners (515 Gabriel #6). They have lived here permanently for the last 20 years. Toni developed dementia several years ago and has been in a facility for the last several years.

**JoAnn Zumpano (Hematite) 140 Asaf Drive #2** passed away on December 16th. JoAnn and her husband Vince have been longtime active members of our community. Notes and cards of condolence can be sent to Vince at his Naples address, as well as their daughter, Diane Dearborn who resides at 153 Gabriel Cir. #7.

## January 2026 Activities

**Adventure Walkers:** Wednesdays, 8:00 am (see newsletter article for details)

**Aquatics:** Pool 1 Monday – Saturday 9:00 am Pool 2 Monday – Saturday 9:15 am

**Biking:** Mondays at 8:00 am, Meet outside the front gate

**Blue Zone Events:** (See newsletter article for details)

**Bocce League:** Team events as scheduled (see website for details: [sapphirlakesnaples.net/activities/bocce-2](http://sapphirlakesnaples.net/activities/bocce-2)) or see newsletter for upcoming events

**Book Club:** Second Monday of the month, at Pool 3 – 1:00 pm:

**Bridge:** Thursday at 12:30 pm at Pool 3

**Crocheting/Knitting:** Tuesdays at 1:00 pm at Pool 4

**Golf:** See newsletter articles for Men's and Women's Golf details

**Hand, Foot and Elbow:** Tuesdays at Pool 3 at 5:30 pm

**Horseshoes:** Open Play on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 9:00 am at the Recreation Area

**Mah Jongg:** American is at Pool 3 on Wednesdays from 1:00 – 3:00 pm  
Cantonese is at Pool 3 on Mondays from 1:00 – 3:00 pm

**Pickleball:** See newsletter article for details or go to: [www.sapphirlakesnaples.net/activities/pickleball-2](http://www.sapphirlakesnaples.net/activities/pickleball-2)

**Pinochle:** Weekdays at Pool 1 at 1:00 pm

**Poor Man's Poker:** Thursdays at Pool 3 at 6:30 pm

**Rummikub:** Fridays at Pool 3 from 1:00 – 3:00 pm

**Tennis:** see newsletter article for details or go to: [www.sapphirlakesnaples.net/activities/tennis/](http://www.sapphirlakesnaples.net/activities/tennis/)

**Trivia:** Sunday, March 1<sup>st</sup> . Eight teams of 6 will compete at Pool 3.

**Yoga:** Tuesday and Thursdays at Pool 3 from 9:00 – 10:00 am

## **SWIMMING POOL RULES**

### **NO SMOKING**

ON THE POOL DECK OR IN THE CABANA, CAPACITY OF THIS POOL IS  
**23** PERSONS

Children 12 years of age and younger must be accompanied and supervised by a parent or other responsible person 16 years of age or older.

- Swimming is only permitted between dawn and dusk.
- All persons using any pool must be appropriately attired.
- All persons must shower before entering the pool.
- Pool safety equipment and cables should be kept in place and are not to be used except for their intended purpose.
- No inflatable devices over 2 feet in diameter are allowed. Noodles and swimming aids are allowed.
- No glass or animals in the fenced pool area (5 feet / 15.2 meters from unfenced pool.)
- Running, jumping, skating, bicycling or throwing any kind of item or any other activity that creates a danger or annoyance in the general pool area is prohibited.
- No food or beverage in the pool or on the wet deck. Commercially bottled water in plastic bottles is allowed on pool wet deck for pool patron hydration.
- Incontinent persons and infants not yet potty trained must wear pants specifically designed for use in the water, such as “little swimmers” while in any pool.
- Only radios with headphones may be used at the pool.

### **NO DIVING**

Do not swallow the pool water

Pool MAXIMUM depth: **6 FT**